

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE 8-A

WASHINGTON TIMES
9 May 1985

House would force firing of Russian workers

By Rita McWilliams
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

An amendment that would force the firing of some 200 Soviet citizens working at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow and at the U.S. Consulate in Leningrad was added to a State Department authorization bill yesterday by the House.

Rep. Jim Courter, R-N.J., author of the amendment, said the Soviet citizens, who mainly work as mechanics and chauffeurs and in maintenance jobs, are security risks.

The amendment, approved by voice vote, was prompted by reports that KGB undercover operatives have infiltrated the U.S. Embassy by taking such jobs, and that embassy typewriters were bugged as recently as 1984.

The amendment would bar the employment of Soviet citizens at the two U.S. posts after Sept. 30, 1986.

The State Department has had no official comment on the matter, but Mr. Courter said yesterday the department wanted some language in the amendment further defined because they want to continue hiring some Soviet citizens.

Some Democrats opposed the across-the-board firing of Soviet citizens.

"I agree we have a security problem in Moscow," said Rep. Daniel A. Mica, D-Fla.; but, he said, the Reagan administration is already working on a plan to reduce the number of Soviet citizens that are employed. If hundreds of Americans go to the Soviet Union to work in the mainten-

ance jobs, he added, they also would be susceptible to being bugged in their homes.

"If we expand the network [of Americans in the Soviet Union], the [U.S.] intelligence people will have worse problems," he added.

Mr. Mica said a solution should be worked out to deal with security problems in U.S. embassies in other countries as well.

A number of other amendments also were tacked yesterday on to the authorization bill, which is expected to be voted on today. They are:

- An amendment by Rep. Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., to form a commission to study communist disinformation and press manipulation;

- An amendment by Rep. Jerry Solomon, R-N.Y., to reduce the authorization for assessed contribu-

tions to the United Nations by 15 percent, which would result in a \$52.4 million reduction in both 1986 and 1987;

- An amendment by Rep. Bruce F. Vento, D-Minn., mandating a travel advisory — warning U.S. citizens about the dangers of traveling in the vicinity of Guadalajara, Mexico — remain in effect until prosecution of those responsible for the murder of a Drug Enforcement Agency agent and abductions of others thought to have been involved with investigating drug-related matters; and

- An amendment by Rep. Mark Siljander, R-Mich., requiring the State Department to abide by the "Sullivan Principles" of non-racist employment guidelines in its embassies and consulates in South Africa.